IRS NEWS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES February 2025

► UPCOMING WEBINARS

(1) The ABCs of Foreign Tax Credit for Individuals (FTC)

This free webinar for tax professionals will discuss:

- Eligibility
- Limitations
- Adjustments
- Sourcing
- Substantiation
- Impact of treaties
- New F1116 Schedules B & C
- Plus, a live Q & A

Date: Wednesday, January 19, 2025 Time: 1:00 p.m. (ET), 12:00 p.m. (CT), 11:00 a.m. (MT), 10:00 a.m. (PT) Registration: To register for the event, visit the: <u>Internal Revenue Service webinar registration</u> Questions? Email us at: <u>cl.sl.web.conference.team@irs.gov</u> (Tax Professionals: Earn up to 2 CE credits. Category: Federal Tax)

► HOT TOPICS

How to know it's the IRS Protect yourself from impersonators: Know how we contact you.

► HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?

The Taxpayer Bill of Rights: Fundamental protection for all taxpayers

• All taxpayers have rights any time they interact with the IRS. These ten rights are outlined in the Taxpayer Bill of Rights.

► BEWARE OF TAX SCAMS

IRS, CASST announce 2025 filing season changes aimed at preventing spread of scams, schemes; new Fuel Tax Credit statement and increased review of "other withholding" claims among highlights

 The IRS and partners in the Coalition Against Scam and Scheme Threats (CASST) released changes for the 2025 filing season designed to help protect taxpayers from becoming victims of a scam or scheme and preventing tax professionals from having their credentials compromised.

How taxpayers can protect themselves from gift card scams

 Taxpayers should be aware of gift card scams and take steps to protect themselves. Scammers may target taxpayers by asking them to pay a fake tax bill with gift cards. People should remember that the IRS never asks for or accepts gift cards as payment for a tax bill.

► TAX TIPS and FACT SHEETS

Millions of low- and moderate-income workers benefit from the EITC

 Workers who earned \$66,819 per year or less when they file their 2024 tax return may be able to qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit.

► NEWS RELEASES

2025 tax filing season starts as IRS begins accepting tax returns today; taxpayers have many options for help

• The Internal Revenue Service opened the 2025 tax filing season and is accepting and processing federal individual tax year 2024 returns.

IRS urges taxpayers to choose tax preparers carefully to protect their personal information

• The Internal Revenue Service reminded taxpayers that choosing the right tax professional is essential to helping them avoid tax-related identity theft and financial harm.

IRS provides updated frequently asked questions for the energy efficient home improvement and residential clean energy property credits

• The Internal Revenue Service updated the frequently asked questions in Fact Sheet 2025-01.

IRS initiates Fast Track Settlement pilot programs in effort to make Alternative Dispute Resolution faster and easier

• The Internal Revenue Service announced three pilot programs that will test changes to existing Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) programs.

► DISASTER INFORMATION – NEW OR EXPIRING

The below articles may impact your clients in neighboring states.

IRS reminder to disaster area taxpayers with extensions: All or parts of 14 states, 2 territories need to file 2023 returns by Feb. 3; others have until May 1

• The Internal Revenue Service reminded disaster-area taxpayers who received extensions to file their 2023 returns that, depending upon their location, their returns are due by Feb. 3 or May 1, 2025.

IRS provides relief for Helene; various deadlines postponed to May 1, 2025; part or all of 7 states qualify

• The Internal Revenue Service announced disaster tax relief for all individuals and businesses affected by Hurricane Helene, including the entire states of Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina and parts of Florida, Tennessee and Virginia.

IRS help available to victims of Hurricanes Helene and Milton; May 1 deadline now applies to individuals and businesses

 In the wake of the devastating hurricanes that have ravaged Florida and the Southeast in recent weeks, the Internal Revenue Service reassured victims that it stands ready to provide the tax-related assistance they need to recover from these storms.

IRS provides Hurricane Milton relief; May 1 deadline now applies to individuals and businesses in all of Florida; many businesses qualify for deposit penalty relief

• Due to Hurricane Milton, the Internal Revenue Service announced relief for individuals and businesses in 51 counties in Florida.

See <u>FAQs for Disaster Victims</u> for information about the definition of an affected taxpayer. See the Disaster Page for all other declarations: <u>Tax relief in disaster situations | Internal Revenue</u> <u>Service (irs.gov)</u>

► OUTREACH CONNECTION

Free tax content you can share: Outreach Connection

- If you need to share information about taxes with your staff, clients, customers or colleagues, we have content you can include in your:
 - Website e-Newsletter Other Social Media (Twitter/Instagram)

► e-NEWS SUBSCRIPTIONS and SOCIAL MEDIA

e-News Subscriptions

• The IRS offers several e-News subscriptions on a variety of tax topics. Click above for information about subscribing.

IRS Social Media

• The IRS uses social media tools to share the latest information on tax changes, scam alerts, initiatives, products and services. Connect with the IRS through social media tools.

QuickAlerts Subscriptions

- ATTN: Authorized IRS e-file Providers/EROs
- This is a reminder that all Online Providers must complete the annual self-certification questions, beginning October 1, 2024, to ensure they comply with Publication 1345 IRS e-file security, privacy, and business standards.
- If you are an Authorized IRS e-file Provider who owns or operates a website(s) that collects, transmits, stores or processes taxpayer information, the IRS also requires you to register those the URL(s) on your e-file Application. The annual certification process includes the registration of these Websites.
- If you have not previously registered your URL(s), select the URL collection link on the efile Application information page menu to register.

► HOW TO SHARE IRS INFO ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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• Scroll to the bottom of any page on IRS.gov. Look for "Share / Print"



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